

Reg. No 1995/005605/08

www.motorsport.co.za

2nd Floor, Meersig 1, Cnr. Upper Lake Lane & Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort. P.O. Box 6677, Weltevreden, 1715 e-mail: <u>msa@motorsport.co.za</u> Telephone (011) 675 2220 Fax: (011) 675 2219, National Number: 0861 MSA MSA (0861 672 672)

MSA COURT OF ENQUIRY 1164 & 1164B

ENQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE AN ALLEGED BREACH OF GCR 172 (iv) AND (vi) AT THE WPMC DRAG RACE MEETING HELD AT THE KILLARNEY CIRCUIT ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2015.

HEARING HELD AT THE MSA OFFICE IN CAPE TOWN AT 18H00 ON 02 DECEMBER 2015 & 13 JANUARY 2016.

PRESENT:

Tony Norton	-	Court President
Joy Dolinschek	-	Court Member
Steve Harding	-	Court Member
Jan Thorsen	-	MSA Steward
Phil Herholdt	-	Clerk of the Course
Brian Moore	-	Club Steward / Drag Section Chairman
Bradley Jacobs	-	Chief Marshal
Masood Reynolds	-	Competitor
Sharief Reynolds	-	Competitor
Heinrich Slamet	-	Competitor
Garion Slamet	-	Competitor
Gary Slamet	-	Father of Competitors / SRD
Francois Woodman	-	Pit crew SRD
Junaid Herbert	-	
Lynn Diedericks	-	Reynolds Racing
Lizelle van Rensburg	-	MSA Scribe

The Court President introduced himself and the court members. There were no objections to the composition of the court.

The court was convened after a number of allegations of verbal abuse at the WPMC Drag Race Meeting on November 14th, 2015.

Mr. Gary Slamet explained how he was approached in an aggressive manner on the day in question by Mr. Sharief Reynolds after a run where Mr. Sharief Reynolds was informed by the Clerk of the Course that he had been disqualified. Allegedly for having competed on a motorcycle which he was not eligible to ride in competition. Although Mr. Sharief Reynolds and Mr. Gary Slamet did have a heated argument, they did not engage in any physical contact with each other.

Mr. Sharief Reynolds was pushed by a member of the SRD Racing Team – Mr. Jeremy Woodman, which caused Mr. Sharief Reynolds to fall as a result of tripping over a tent peg. This sparked further reaction from a member of the SRD Team and Mr. Abbas Brenner then allegedly hit Mr. Jeremy Woodman with a helmet, causing Mr. Jeremy Woodman to fall to the ground. In this ensuing

MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA IS THE ONLY RECOGNISED MOTORSPORT FEDERATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



Directors: Adv. G. T. Avvakoumides (Chairman), A. Scholtz (Chief Executive Officer), A. Taylor (Financial), M. du Toit, P du Toit, D. Easom, J. Fourie, G. Hall, M. Rowe, Ms N. Singh, T. Sipuka altercation, more people got involved in fracas where Mr. Masood Reynolds was punched by Mr. Garion Slamet.

A number of allegations had been posted on Facebook, post the incident and prior to the court convening. These allegations were of an inflammatory nature with threats of physical abuse. Although these posts were not all made by the competitors concerned that did appear on their Facebook pages.

Taking into account that not all parties involved were present at the Court of Enquiry, as they had not been identified by the race officials, the court decided to call for an adjournment in order to allow MSA to summon additional competitors and witness to testify and so allow the court to fully investigate and ventilate the entire incident fully.

The court also asked for copies of all information as posted on the various Facebook pages be delivered to the MSA office for the court to peruse as evidence.

The court was reconvened on Wednesday 13th January 2016 at 18:00 in the MSA Office at Killarney.

PRESENT: Tony Norton Joy Dolinschek Steve Harding Jan Thorsen Brian Moore Bradley Jacobs Masood Reynolds		Court President Court Member Court Member MSA Steward Club Steward / Drag Section Chairman Chief Marshal Competitor
Gary Slamet Garion Slamet	-	Father of Competitors / SRD Competitor Pit crew SRD
Jeremy Woodman Heinrich Slamet	-	Competitor
Lizelle van Rensburg	-	MSA Scribe

Mr. Jeremy Woodman told the court how he had pushed Mr. Sharief Reynolds and had then been struck by a helmet which was used as a weapon by Mr. Abbas Brenner. Mr. Abbas Brenner also posted a number of comments on Facebook which were of a nature which brought motorsport into disrepute.

A number of irregularities were noted by the court as they were reported by competitors and witnesses during the court proceedings.

The competitors and witnesses were excused from the hearing.

Findings:

After having heard all the evidence and read the submissions from all the parties, the court reminds the competitors that, they are responsible for the actions of their pit crew/family members - (GCR 113 xiv) - and any misbehavior by such pit crew/family member reflects negatively on the competitor, and they must ensure that a vehicle and driver are those nominated – (GCR 113 vi).

While the court accepts the sincerity of the apologies of all parties who attended the hearing, such serious verbal and physical altercations cannot simply be dismissed, made worse by the inflammatory comments posted on Facebook. The motorsport environment should be one where all persons feel welcomed and are not threatened or exposed to an unseemly and inappropriate behavior.

The court was postponed on two occasions to accommodate all parties to be able to be present, some individuals were not present and did not provide the court with valid reasons for not attending the hearings.

Court Ruling:

- 1. The current timing system has become unstable and a replacement system had been purchased and is in the process of being installed and commissioned. As a result of this, the court advises the promoters of Drag Events, at Killarney, that no times will be accepted as official until such time as the timing system has been certified as accurate by the proper authorities.
- 2. The Floating Trophy for the holder of the track record for Motorcycles as previously awarded to Mr. Sharief Reynolds must be returned to the MSA office at Killarney within 7 days of these findings being published. No MSA competition licence for any category will be issued in 2016 to Mr. Sharief Reynolds until such time as this requirement is fulfilled.
- 3. The conduct of competitors and crews is not acceptable and attention is drawn to SSR 49, which needs to be enforced more strictly by the race officials at Drag Race Events.
- Mr. Brenner will not be eligible to hold an MSA competition licence for a period of three months of competition being, 1st February2016 to 30th April 2016 and may apply for a licence as of 1st May 2016. (GCR 172 (iv), GCR 177 v).
- Mr. Garion Slamet will not be eligible to participate in Drag Race Events in the Western Cape Region for a period of three months of competition being, 1st February 2016 to 30th April 2016 and my only enter as of 1 May 2016. (GCR 172 iv).
- 6. Mr. Woodman who is not a competitor, but is a member of the SRD Racing Team pit crew, is reprimanded for his actions and advised that his conduct will impact negatively on the competitors of SRD should he be involved in any breach of conduct while being associated with SRD in the future. (GCR 113 xiv).
- 7. MSA licence holders are advised to police their own and 3rd party postings on their Social Media pages/walls, as comments which bring Motorsport into disrepute will reflect negatively on the competitor as provided for in GCR 172 iv, and the competitors are referred specifically to the clarification notes which appear after this regulation in the 2016 MSA Handbook.

All parties are reminded of their rights as per GCR 212B.

These findings are published via email on 01st February 2016 at 12:40.